

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES, SOUTH-SOUTH SOLUTIONS

E-newsletter of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation in UNDP



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1) Thai Organic Supermarkets Seek to Improve Health

A Thai business is working hard to expand access to organic food in the country. It sees this as part of a wider campaign to improve health in the country - and its success has caught the attention of the government, which wants to turn Thailand into a global health destination.

The Lemon Farm chain run by Suwanna Langnamsank (<http://www.lemonfarm.com/lmf/>) was started 13 years ago and has grown to nine organic supermarkets in the capital, Bangkok. Lemon Farm works with 200 organic farms in Thailand and employs 160 people.

Organic food (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organic_food) – grown without chemicals and artificial fertilizers and not irradiated or subjected to other tampering – is believed by many to be healthier because it avoids the harmful effects of accumulating chemicals. It is also thought to be richer in vitamins and minerals because of the use of non-chemical fertilizers on the soil.

Lemon Farm sells made-in-Thailand organic vegetables and fruit, natural gift sets, soap and tea. There are also macrobiotic cafes in the supermarkets called Be Organic. A macrobiotic diet avoids foods containing toxins (<http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/cancer-help/about-cancer/treatment/complementary-alternative/therapies/macrobiotic-diet>)

The supermarkets use eye-pleasing modern design to set themselves apart from more conventional supermarkets.

According to Lemon Farm's website, it is a social enterprise and practices fair trade. It is using market-driven solutions to increase the availability of healthy food in the country. It seeks to support small-scale farmers and champion change in farming methods, encouraging a move away from dependence on harmful chemicals that damage human health and the environment and promoting "agricultural and economic self-sufficiency".

The macrobiotic restaurant operates to six values, among them using fresh vegetables and only using produce from associated farms. The restaurants do not use added sugar, they cook using a pressure cooker, and use natural ingredients such as sea salt, ginger, fermented soy sauce and natural miso.

They do not use any artificial preservatives or flavour enhancers such as monosodium glutamate (MSG), a common practice in Asian cooking. Lemon Farm's success as an organic food pioneer has caught the attention of the Thai government. The Ministry of Commerce (http://www2.moc.go.th/main.php?filename=index_design4_en) has contracted Lemon Farm to join its campaign to offer organic food in schools and hospitals.

By promoting organic food, the government is hoping to boost farmers' incomes while improving health in the country and bolstering the country's thriving medical services industry serving foreign patients.

"We need to promote healthy food and a healthy environment," Piramol Charoenpao, deputy permanent secretary at the Ministry of Commerce, told Monocle magazine. "Thailand is a medical hub. The idea is to have retreat-style hospitals serving organic food. We're increasing organic food production and educating people about it."

Thailand has already built a good reputation with its medical and health services. More than 1.6 million non-Thais are treated in Thai hospitals annually, with an estimated 500,000 travelling specifically for medical treatment (The Guardian).

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Former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra mooted the idea of making the country an international leader in medical tourism in 2003. It is expected that providing medical services to overseas patients will make the country US \$3.3 billion by 2015 (The Guardian).

It is hoped that offering organic food in hospitals and health facilities will boost the attractiveness and effectiveness of using health services in Thailand.

Medical tourism is considered one of the fastest-growing sectors in the world. Estimates place it as a market worth US \$100 billion. Three countries that compete in this market by offering medical services in the English language include India, Singapore and Thailand. They compete by offering services comparable to wealthier countries but at considerably less cost.

Lemon Farm says it is on a mission to develop the marketplace for organic food in Thailand by educating consumers and producing "innovative natural food". It looks like it has already made a big impact.

LINKS:

- 1) Whole Foods Market: The world's leader in natural and organic foods, with more than 340 stores in North America and the United Kingdom. **Website:** <http://www.wholefoodsmarket.com>
- 2) Conscious Capitalism: A book by Co-CEO of Whole Foods Market, John Mackey. **Website:** <http://consciouscapitalism.org/resources/538>
- 3) Live Plan: A step-by-step online resource for creating a business plan for an organic supermarket. **Website:** http://www.bplans.com/organic_food_store_business_plan/company_summary_fc.php
- 4) Start your own: Health food store: Advice and business tips on starting a health food store. **Website:** <http://www.startups.co.uk/health-food-store.html>

2) Global South Experiencing Transportation Revolution

Away from the news headlines, a quiet revolution has been taking place in public transportation across the global South. As cities have expanded and grown, they have also been putting in place public transport systems to help people get around and get to work.

One proven, efficient way to move large numbers of people quickly through dense urban areas is to use underground subway or metro systems. Subway systems have a profound effect on local economies and wealth creation. They allow people to quickly cover distances that may once have meant hours stuck in traffic. Once people can move around a city quickly and over large distances, they can change how they work, shop, enjoy themselves. It allows people living in poor outlying neighbourhoods to travel to jobs in the city centre, improving their income prospects.

As many countries in the global South have enjoyed healthy growth rates despite the global economic crisis, and with the global financial system being flooded with stimulus funds to spur growth, the resources have become available to invest in expensive and long-term public transport solutions such as metro systems. Another factor is the scale of urbanization in the global South, which is driving governments to turn to new solutions that will help in avoiding the mistakes made in the past.

The world's first urban underground railway system was built in 19th-century London, England. It was the product of a country that had been experiencing rapid, large-scale industrialization and urbanization unseen before in human history. Since then, the now 150-year-old London Underground (<http://www.tfl.gov.uk/modalpages/2625.aspx>) has acted as the arteries coursing through the city's economic body, criss-crossing the city and delivering millions of people to work and play every day. It is now impossible to imagine Britain's economy functioning without this efficiency tool.

Now, as the global South engages in the greatest urbanization project in human history, more cities are turning to underground metro systems to keep people, and the economy, moving. Lessons have been learned from the first generation of global South cities, which expanded rapidly in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. Many became quickly clogged in traffic and cloaked in pollution, and saw economic opportunity and social mobility slowed down as a consequence.

Three of the biggest metro systems in the world are now in China – Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou (The Economist). Beijing (<http://www.explorebj.com/metro/>) has a metro system stretching 442 kilometres and is used every day by 5.97 million people. By 2020, Beijing is hoping to boast 1,000 kilometres of metro network in the city. In Shanghai (<http://www.shmetro.com/EnglishPage/EnglishPage.jsp>), the 423 kilometre metro system carries 5.16 million people every day, while Guangzhou (<http://www.gzmtr.com/en/>) carries 4.49 million people a day.

From the 1960s, the building of metros increased around the world. More than 190 cities now have metro systems. In China, Suzhou (http://www.livingsu.com/guide_detail.asp?id=7), Kunming (<http://www.urbanrail.net/as/cn/kunming/kunming.htm>) and Hangzhou (<http://www.urbanrail.net/as/cn/hangzhou.htm>) opened metro systems in 2012. Elsewhere in the global South, Lima in Peru and Algiers (<http://www.metroalger-dz.com/>) in Algeria recently acquired new metro systems. This means Africa now has two cities with metro systems – Algiers and Cairo in Egypt.

In India, Bangalore opened a metro system two years ago and Mumbai is close to finishing its metro. Bhopal and Jaipur also plan to build metros. In Brazil, the metros in Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro are being expanded and new systems are being built in Salvador and Cuiaba. In the Gulf states of the Middle East, Dubai (<http://dubaimetro.eu/>) opened a system in 2009 and Mecca (<http://meccametro.com/>) in Saudi Arabia in 2010. Abu Dhabi, Doha, Riyadh and Kuwait City are also working on building metro systems.

Paraguay's capital, Asuncion, is working on one, as is Kathmandu in Nepal. Jakarta in Indonesia has attempted to build an underground metro several times and is now trying to get one built.

But how many of these countries funding this splurge on metro systems? According to Roland Berger Strategy Consultants (rolandberger.co.uk), global government stimulus programmes to fight the current financial crisis have increased available funding for rail systems. There are also increased resources available for transport solutions that avoid the high pollution rates that come with automobiles.

According to Mass Transit Magazine, China is using domestic consumption and increasing urbanization to spur economic growth and is hoping to increase investment in metro systems in the country by 10 per cent per year.

The target is to spend 280 billion Yuan to 290 billion Yuan (US \$44.91 to US \$46.51 billion) on metro systems in 2013, up from 260 billion Yuan in 2012.

The knock-on economic boost will be felt by domestic businesses as trains and train systems are purchased. It is estimated sales of Chinese-made trains will go from 10.9 billion Yuan in 2012 to 28 billion Yuan by 2017.

All this new building will expand the country's metro lines by 846 kilometres in 24 cities.

Ten Chinese cities are expecting soon to receive permission to begin work on building new metro systems: Xian, Tianjin, Chongqing, Chengdu, Hangzhou, Ningbo, Kunming, Tsingdao, Wuxi and Dongguan.

In 2013, 12 Chinese cities will complete new metro systems including Harbin, Changsha, Ningbo and Zhengzhou.

If this trend continues and expands, then the future cities of the global South could be modern, urban places that raise living standards, while avoiding damaging human health with environmental pollution and over-crowding and social exclusion.

LINKS:

- 1) Life Guangzhou: Guangzhou Awarded World's Best Metro System. Website: <http://tinyurl.com/ajdcsur>
- 2) Inhabitat: Parisian Building Taps Metro System as a Heat Source. Website: <http://inhabitat.com/body-heat-from-paris-metro-to-heat-residential-building>
- 3) Digital Construction: Top Ten Metro Systems: Design and efficiency in the world of mass transit. Website: http://www.constructiondigital.com/top_ten/top-10-business/top-ten-metro-systems
- 4) Six of the world's best metro systems – in pictures: A look at six metro systems around the world, from the archaeological treasures on display in Athens to the spectacular halls of Moscow's underground system via continental Europe's oldest network. Website:
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/travel/gallery/2013/jan/09/six-worlds-best-metro-systems>

3) Global South's Middle Class is Increasing Prosperity

The global middle class is on the rise - and this is creating both challenges and opportunities. As poverty rates have come down across the global South, many countries have seen a rise in the proportion of their population categorized as "middle class". Globally, being middle class is defined as a person able to consume between US \$4 a day and US \$13 a day (ILO).

According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), most of this growth will be in Asia and the region will soon make up 66 per cent of the world's middle class. Historical experience shows that members of the middle class quickly become absorbed in spending their accumulated capital on housing, equipment, industry and business, health and education. In countries with a growing middle class, policy makers need to show a strong interest in creating stable economic conditions to encourage this expanding consumption and domestic demand, the OECD advises.

Growth of the world's middle class took off after 2001, with an additional 400 million workers joining this group. The McKinsey group of consultants found the total number reached 2 billion in a dozen "emerging nations" in 2010, collectively spending US \$6.9 trillion every year (McKinsey).

Forecasters predict a further increase in the middle class across the global South will bring with it a surge in consumption (a combination of spending and demand). Areas being highlighted by various studies and reports include China's small and mid-size cities, other areas of East Asia and Africa.

Middle class spending in these dozen emerging nations could reach US \$20 trillion during the next decade - twice the amount of consumption occurring in the United States right now (McKinsey).

The result is a re-shaping of populations, with growing numbers of people now neither rich nor desperately poor, but landing in the middle of the income distribution.

And local competitors in the global South are fighting hard for these consumers on their own turf.

The Hangzhou Wahaha (<http://en.wahaha.com.cn/>) beverage maker in China has been able to compete against multinationals such as Coca-Cola and PepsiCo, according to McKinsey. It has turned itself into a US \$5.2 billion business using a multi-pronged strategy: targeting rural areas, catering to local needs, keeping costs low and positioning itself as the patriotic choice.

And this change is also occurring in Africa, where a growing middle class is fuelling sales of refrigerators, television sets, mobile phones, motors and automobiles across the continent, according to the OECD. In Ghana, for example, car and motorcycle ownership has risen by 81 per cent since 2006.

According to the African Development Bank (AfDB), Africa's middle class has reached 34 per cent of the population, or 350 million people. In 1980, it was 126 million people, or 27 per cent of the population.

Countries with the largest middle classes in Africa include Tunisia and Morocco, while Liberia and Burundi have the smallest number of people in the middle class.

The economic growth that is fuelling this middle-class surge is coming from a combination of increasing investment in the services sector, the tapping of the natural resource sector and better economic policies in the past two decades. Africa's middle class is driving growth in the private sector and boosting demand for goods and services, most often also provided by the private sector.

"The liberalization of African economies has resulted in improved efficiencies and led to a rapid growth in the service sector, which has spurred the growth of the middle class," Lawrence Bategeka, a principal researcher at the Uganda-based Economic Policy Research Centre, told The East African newspaper.

How important the middle class is to increasing consumption levels can be seen in the cases of Brazil and South Korea. According to the OECD, both countries had similar income levels and growth rates in the 1960s. But by the 1980s, high income inequality in Brazil capped the middle class at 29 per cent of the population. In South Korea in the 1980s, the middle class population reached 53 per cent. This larger middle class population enabled South Korea to switch from an export-driven growth strategy to domestic consumption.

While Brazil wasn't able to do this at the time, it has since made impressive gains in reducing poverty – from 40 per cent of the population in 2001 to 25 per cent in 2009. This has seen the middle class grow to 52 per cent of the population and boosted domestic consumption.

While a rising middle class in the global South is good news for improving human development and living standards, the OECD found much of the new middle class was vulnerable and could easily slip out of that category. They also often lacked enough income to purchase more expensive durable goods such as automobiles (OECD Yearbook 2012).

The success of this fragile but growing middle class will be key to how well the global economy fares in the coming years.

A new report by the UN's International Labour Organization (ILO) argues that the global South's growing middle classes are just the thing to spur growth across the wider world economy.

"Over time, this emerging middle-class could give a much needed push to more balanced global growth by boosting consumption, particularly in poorer parts of the developing world," said Steven Kapsos, one of the authors of the report.

In Indonesia, an example of the economic impact of the middle class trend in action can be seen in the surging life insurance business.

Association of Indonesian Life Insurance Companies (AAJI) chairman Hendrisman Rahim believes the growing middle class are potential customers for the country's thriving life insurance industry.

"They are the ones who have the need to be insured and can afford to purchase a policy. Extremely rich people are financially capable [of buying], but may not have the need. Extremely poor people have the need, but require financial assistance to be insured," he said to the Jakarta Post.

As the Indonesian middle class increases, the life insurance industry is expecting to see revenue rise by 30 per cent in 2013.

LINKS:

- 1) The \$10 Trillion Dollar Prize by Michael J. Silverstein. **Website:** amazon.com
- 2) The Middle of the Pyramid: Dynamics of the Middle Class in Africa. **Website:** <http://www.afdb.org/en/blogs/afdb-championing-inclusive-growth-across-africa/post/the-african-consumer-market-8901/>
McKinsey Quarterly: Capturing the world's emerging middle class. **Website:** <http://www.mckinseyquarterly.com/Capturing the worlds emerging middle class 2639>
- 3) Usalama is seeking investors via the Venture Capital for Africa platform. **Website:** <http://vc4africa.biz/members/254innovative/>
- 4) OECD Observer: An emerging middle class by Mario Pezzini. **Website:** <http://www.oecdobserver.org/news/fullstory.php/aid/3681/An emerging middle class.html>

4) Angolan Film Grabs Attention at Film Festival

The power of the creative economy to transform lives, livelihoods - and perceptions - should never be underestimated. Creativity can transform the image of places and situations often seen in a negative light. A film from Angola is shining a light on the country's music scene and showing the vitality of the nation in the wake of a long-running civil..

Angola's vicious civil war ran from 1975 to 2002 (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Angolan_Civil_War) and the country is still recovering from the economic and social damage wreaked by the conflict.

The film Death Metal Angola (deathmetalandola.com) was a hit of the recent Dubai International Film Festival (dubaifilmfest.com/en/), an annual film showcase running every December in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in the Middle East.

Death Metal Angola illustrates the power of film storytelling to draw attention to a country and spark interest in its culture and challenges.

The film focuses on the hidden world of heavy metal music (of which death metal is a sub-genre) (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heavy_metal_music) in Angola - but it was not supposed to be about heavy metal music at all.

The story starts with American director Jeremy Xido (<http://jeremyxido.com/>). Originally asked to do a film on immigration, Xido happened upon a railway line in Angola being built by Chinese workers. The railway line was being built in the town of Huambo (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Huambo>) in central Angola.

"There's only one cafe in Huambo where you can get a decent cup of coffee," he told the UAE's The National news website. "Everyone interested in coffee is there: expats, military guys, Lebanese businessmen, people from all over the place."

Hanging out in the café, he met a young man, Wilker Flores, who said he was a musician.

"He said he played death metal, and I just thought: 'I have to hear this.'"

Flores' partner, Sonia Ferreira, runs an orphanage and Wilker invited Xido to come hear him play.

"It was in this really poor neighbourhood with no electricity, and there's Wilker with an amplifier and guitar and stolen electricity from this wire. We lit him with the headlights from an SUV (sport utility vehicle) and he proceeded to play this impromptu death metal concert in the middle of an orphanage with kids running around.

It was the most amazing thing I've ever seen."

Xido then discovered that Ferreira and Flores were organizing the country's first heavy metal music concert. While they were planning the concert, Xido was inspired to switch to making the film Death Metal Angola. The documentary took about six weeks to film. Filming took place around Huambu, Benguela and Angola's booming capital, Luanda. It is a mix of interviews with musicians, including some from the death metal and thrash metal scenes.

The origins of this music scene in Angola reaches back to the country's former colonial ruler, Portugal, a country where heavy metal rock music has a strong fan base.

Xido found the love for metal music was a by-product of the civil war years. "During the war, a lot of the young guys - if they had the opportunity - would go to Portugal to study to get away from armed service, and they were often exposed to contemporary rock."

There are local links, too. "Wilker says that rock is actually African in its roots, and says that a lot of the rhythms you'll find in the countryside are the rhythms you'll find in death metal."

"I think a lot of it has to do with looking back at the war and the sort of unfilled promises of post-war," said Xido, who adds that the lyrics have very political messages and those involved are highly intellectual.

"A lot of these guys are working in banks or doing IT. There's a young guy who is considered to have the best metal growl. He wanted to come to Dubai, but is studying electronics and has exams."

Filmmaking is a vibrant part of the global creative economy. According to a 2011 UIS (UNESCO Institute for Statistics) survey, two countries in the global South lead the world in filmmaking. India remains the world's leading film producer, and Nigeria, with its prolific home video market, continues to hold second place ahead of the United States.

According to the Creative Economy Report 2010, the creative economy is "A new development paradigm" linking the economy and culture, embracing economic, cultural, technological and social aspects of development at both the macro and micro levels.

"Central to the new paradigm is the fact that creativity, knowledge and access to information are increasingly recognized as powerful engines driving economic growth and promoting development in a globalizing world," the report says.

And as for Xido, making the film has opened his ears to heavy metal music, which he says was not what he listened to growing up.

"Because of these guys I started listening to Pantera and Sepultura and I really got into it. Metal on headphones in New York is fantastic. I love the way they like it in Angola, where it's a huge expression of joy."

But what about the other film, the one about immigration and the railway? "It's still in production," Xido said.

LINKS:

- 1) UNESCO Institute for Statistics: A treasure trove of data and analysis on the impact of culture. **Website:** <http://www.uis.unesco.org/Culture/Pages/movie-statistics.aspx>
- 2) How to Make a Movie: Tips on movie-making in 23 steps with pictures. **Website:** <http://www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Movie>
- 3) How to Make a Video: The 3-step process of making a video. **Website:** <http://www.mediacollege.com/video/tutorial/>
- 4) Coming soon ... how to make the perfect movie trailer: If you want to get your movie noticed, you need an eye-catching trailer. Just follow these simple rules. **Website:** <http://www.guardian.co.uk/film/2012/jun/16/how-to-make-a-movie-trailer>

WINDOW ON THE WORLD

Check out our website archive: southerninnovator.org

Southern Innovator (ISSN 2222-9280) magazine's third issue is now online and print copies are available for distribution. The third issue's theme is agribusiness and food security. View the issue online here: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/106055665/Southern-Innovator-Magazine-Issue-3-Agribusiness-and-Food-Security>. Contact us about opportunities to sponsor this issue or any future issues and we can send you more information on how it works.

Issue 4, on cities and urbanization, is complete and will be published soon. Please contact the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation if you would like a copy (copies) of Southern Innovator (<http://ssc.undp.org/content/ssc.html>).

The covers for issues 3 and 4 are below:



Issue 2 on Youth and Entrepreneurship; Issue 3 on agribusiness and food security, is available. Issues 4 and 5 are also in the works for 2013.

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Issue 1 of Southern Innovator was called "...a terrific tour de force of what is interesting, cutting edge and relevant in the global mobile/ICT space..."

Also check out our South South Expo: 2012's Expo was held in Vienna, Austria: southsouthexpo.org

BOOKS

The New Harvest: Agricultural Innovation in Africa by Calestous Juma, Publisher: Oxford University Press.
Website: http://belfercenter.ksg.harvard.edu/publication/20504/new_harvest.html

Innovative Africa: The New Face of Africa: Essays on the Rise of Africa's Innovation Age by Will Mutua and Mbwana Ally, Publisher: Afrinnovator. **Website:** <http://book.afrinnovator.com/>

The Coming Prosperity by Philip Auerswald, Publisher: Oxford University Press. **Website:** <http://auerswald.org/>

The Landgrabbers by Fred Pearce, Publisher: Eden Project Books. **Website:** <http://www.randomhouse.co.uk/editions/9781905811731>

The Revenge of Geography by Robert D. Kaplan, Publisher: Random House. **Website:** <http://www.randomhouse.com/book/209683/the-revenge-of-geography-by-robert-d-kaplan>

Need, Speed and Greed: How the New Rules of Innovation Can Transform Businesses, Propel Nations to Greatness, and Tame the World's Most Wicked Problems by Vijay Vaitheeswaran, Publisher: HarperBusiness. **Website:** www.amazon.com

Emerging Economies: The Geopolitics of the BRICS Nations Publisher: Stratfor. They make up nearly half the world's population and wield significant influence within their respective regions. Combined, their GDPs are not too far behind that of the United States. Understand the geopolitics of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa. **Website:** www.stratfor.com

China's Regulatory State: A New Strategy for Globalization by Roselyn Hsueh, Publisher: Cornell University Press. **Website:** www.cornellpress.cornell.edu

Living in the Endless City edited by Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic, Publisher: Phaidon. The city is the subject of the 21st century. All over the world, populations are shifting towards urban centres. Living in the Endless City depicts an authoritative survey of cities of today and the prospects for our urban future of tomorrow. 36 contributors from across Europe, South America, China, Africa and the U.S. set the agenda for the city - detailing its successes as well as its failures. **Website:** <http://www.urban-age.net/publications/living-in-the-endless-city/>

Consumptionomics: Asia's Role in Reshaping Capitalism by Chandran Nair, Publisher: Infinite Ideas. **Website:** www.amazon.com

World 3.0: Global Prosperity and How to Achieve It by Pankaj Ghemawat, Publisher: Harvard Business School Press. **Website:** www.amazon.com

The China Miracle: Development Strategy and Economic Reform by Justin Yifu Lin, Publisher: The Chinese University Press. **Website:** www.eurospanbookstore.com

The End of Cheap China: Economic and Cultural Trends that will Disrupt the World by Shaun Rein, Publisher: John Wiley and Sons. **Website:** www.amazon.com

Global Slump: The Economics and Politics of Crisis and Resistance by David McNally, Publisher: PM Press. Global Slump analyzes the global financial meltdown as the first systemic crisis of the neoliberal stage of capitalism. It argues that – far from having ended – the crisis has ushered in a whole period of worldwide economic and political turbulence. In developing an account of the crisis as rooted in fundamental features of capitalism, Global Slump challenges the view that its source lies in financial deregulation. **Website:** https://secure.pmpress.org/index.php?l=product_detail&p=271

Creative Ecologies: Where Thinking is a Proper Job by John Howkins, Publisher: UQP. **Website:** www.creativeeconomy.com/think.html

Breakout Nations by Ruchir Sharma, Publisher: Penguin. Breakout Nations offers journeys through more than two dozen of the most interesting economies in the emerging world. **Website:** <http://breakoutnations.com/>

Light Manufacturing in Africa by Hinh T. Dinh et al, Publisher: World Bank. This book examines how light manufacturing can offer a viable solution for sub-Saharan Africa's need for structural transformation and productive job creation, given its potential competitiveness based on low wage costs and an abundance of natural resources that supply raw materials needed for industries. **Website:** <http://issuu.com/world.bank.publications/docs/9780821389614>

Why Nations Fail: The Origins of Power, Prosperity and Poverty by Daron Acemoglu and James A. Robinson, Publisher: Profile Books. **Website:** www.amazon.com

Arrival City by Doug Saunders, Publisher: Pantheon. A third of humanity is on the move. History's largest migration is creating new urban spaces that are this century's focal points of conflict and change — centres of febrile settlement that will reshape our cities and reconfigure our economies. **Website:** <http://arrivalcity.net/>

China: And the End of Poverty in Africa – Towards Mutual Benefit? by Penny Davis, Publisher: Diakonia and the European Network on Debt and Development. **Website:** www.eurodad.org/uploadedFiles/Whats_New/Reports/Kinarapport_A4.pdf

Globalization and Competition: Why Some Emergent Countries Succeed while Others Fall Behind by Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira, Publisher: Cambridge University Press. **Website:** www.networkideas.org/book/jan2010/bk12_GACL.htm

State of the Field in Youth Enterprise, Employment, and Livelihoods Development Publisher: Making Cents International. This practical resource features learning from over 80 leading organizations that are working around the world to increase and improve economic opportunities for young people. Topics include youth enterprise development; workforce development; youth-inclusive financial services; working with adolescent girls and young women; and monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment. **Website:** www.YouthEconomicOpportunities.org/media.asp

Vitamin Green: The Definitive Guide to the World of Contemporary Sustainable Design: Features 100 Innovative Projects from Around the World by editors of Phaidon Press, Publisher: Phaidon Press. **Website:** <http://uk.phaidon.com/store/architecture/vitamin-green-9780714862293/>

Makers: The New Industrial Revolution By Chris Anderson, Publisher: Crown Business. **Website:** www.amazon.com

Papers and Reports

Clean Air Asia Study 2012. Website: <http://cleanairinitiative.org/portal/node/11338>

African Economic Outlook 2012: Promoting Youth Employment Publisher: Various. With almost 200 million people aged between 15 and 24, Africa has the youngest population in the world. This number will double by 2045. Many jobs have been created over the last decade, but the pace needs to accelerate significantly to match the demand of Africa's next generations. Website: <http://www.africaneconomicoutlook.org/en/>

State of China's Cities: 2010/2011: Better City, Better Life Publisher: UNHABITAT. **Website:** www.scribd.com/doc/39882697/State-of-China-s-Cities-Report-2010-2011

Still our Common Interest: Commission for Africa Report 2010 Publisher: Commission for Africa **Website:** www.commissionforafrica.info/2010-report

Why the rumors of Africa's explosive growth have been greatly exaggerated Publisher: Foreign Policy. **Website:** http://www.foreignpolicy.com/articles/2013/01/04/the_myth_of_africa_s_rise?wp_login_redirect=0

The Emerging Middle Class in Developing Countries Publisher: OECD. **Website:** www.oecd-ilibrary.org/oecd/content/workingpaper/5kmmp8lncrns-en (PDF - 2.09 mb)

The Implications of China's Ascendancy for Africa by Hany Besada, Publisher: The Centre for International Governance Innovation. This paper examines the extent to which China's engagement with Africa has produced mutual benefits for both and whether Africa is reaping the necessary benefits required for poverty alleviation and economic development. **Website:** http://www.cigionline.com/sites/default/files/Paper_40-web.pdf

Global Economic Decoupling Alive and Well Emerging economies decouple from the US, come closer to Europe. **Website:** <http://www.marketoracle.co.uk/Article23670.html>

Africa begins to make poverty history: US economists challenge conventional view that the continent is a basket case. **Website:** www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/mar/03/africa-makes-poverty-history

The Demise of the Rest: on How the BRICS Are Crumbling and Why Global Economic Convergence Is a Myth by Ruchir Sharma Publisher: Foreign Affairs. **Website:** <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/138219/ruchir-sharma/broken-brics>

Meteoric Mongolia: Why It's Ascending So Fast – And How It Might Fall by Morris Rossabi Publisher: Foreign Affairs. **Website:** <http://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/138794/morris-rossabi/meteoric-mongolia>

New Magazine

African Innovator Magazine has launched: AIM showcases innovative technology solutions to business challenges on the continent. **Website:** <http://www.africaninnovatormagazine.com/>

On the Web

Blogs and Websites

African Robotics Network: The African Robotics Network (AFRON) is a community of institutions, organizations and individuals engaged in robotics in Africa. AFRON seeks to promote communication and collaborations that will enhance robotics-related education, research and industry on the continent. To achieve this, AFRON organizes projects, meetings and events in Africa at robotics and automation conferences abroad. **Website:** <http://robotics-africa.org/>

Polis: A collaborative blog about cities around the globe. **Website:** <http://www.thepolisblog.org/2012/03/coca-cola-in-africa.html>

mDirectory: The mDirectory is the most comprehensive database of information on mobile tech for social change on the Web: case studies, mobile tools, research, and how-to guides. **Website:** <http://mobileactive.org/directory>

Global Development: Launched in September 2010, this website from the Guardian newspaper tracks progress on the MDGs, encourages debate on its blogs, offers a rich store of datasets from around the world, and features monthly podcasts and resources for schools **Website:** www.guardian.co.uk/global-development

Latameconomy Website Launches

Latameconomy.org is the latest evolution of the annual Latin American Economic Outlook report, essentially bringing its trusted, high quality content into the digital age. Its wide country coverage and methods of analysis are essential for anyone seeking to understand the economic, social and political developments of Latin American countries. **Website:** www.latameconomy.org/en/

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs)

International Development Economics Associates (IDEAs) is a pluralist network of progressive economists across the world, engaged in research, teaching and dissemination of critical analyses of economic policy and development. **Website:** www.networkideas.org/

OECD: Tackling the economic crisis website

The global economic crisis is entering a new phase amid signs of a return to positive growth in many countries. But unemployment is likely to remain high and much still needs to be done to underpin a durable recovery. This website will track the recovery.

Website: http://www.oecd.org/document/24/0,3343,en_2649_201185_41707672_1_1_1_1,00.html

The Global Urbanist: News and analysis of cities around the world: planning, governance, economy, communities, environment, international. **Website:** www.globalurbanist.com

ICT Update: A bimonthly printed bulletin, a web magazine, and an accompanying email newsletter that explores innovative uses of information technology in agriculture and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. **Website:** <http://ictupdate.cta.int/en/Regulars/Perspectives/%28issue%29/56>

Youth-Inclusive Financial Services (YFS-Link) Program: The first space for financial services providers (FSPs) and youth-service organizations (YSOs) to gather, learn and share about youth-inclusive financial services.

Website: yfslink.org

Triple Crisis Blog: Global Perspectives on Finance, Development and Environment
Website: <http://triplecrisis.com/>

Full Disclosure: The Aid Transparency Blog: A Devex blog, written by members of the international community.
Website: www.devex.com/en/blogs/full-disclosure

Africa Portal: An online knowledge resource offering researchers and opinion leaders a forum to share their insights on Africa and publish their work on pressing areas of concern to policymakers and the public. It aims to fill the gap in accessibility to research and information on policy issues on the continent.

Website: africaportal.org

African Economic Outlook: A unique online tool that puts rigorous economic data, information and research on Africa at your fingertips. A few clicks gives access to comprehensive analyses of African economies, placed in their social and political contexts. This is the only place where African countries are examined through a common analytical framework, allowing you to compare economic prospects at the regional, sub-regional and country levels. **Website:** africaneconomicoutlook.org/en

Africa Renewal: The *Africa Renewal* information programme, produced by the Africa Section of the United Nations Department of Public Information, provides up-to-date information and analysis of the major economic and development challenges facing Africa today.

Website: www.un.org/ecosocdev/geninfo/afrec

Timbuktu Chronicles: *A blog by Emeka Okafor:* "a view of Africa and Africans with a focus on entrepreneurship, innovation, technology, practical remedies and other self-sustaining activities."

Website: <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.com/>

AfriGadget: AfriGadget is a must-read for African invention junkies. They are always on the look out for ingenious innovation that is new or a repurposing of existing technology in a new way, interesting in the sense that the story captures the imagination of others, inspiring others to see solutions in uncommon ways, practical ideas that solve problems in a demonstrable way, and entrepreneurs who are inventing new products or solutions. **Website:** www.afriegadget.com

Interesting Blogger

Emeka Okafor, Timbuktu Chronicles: Emeka Okafor is an entrepreneur and venture catalyst who lives in New York City. He is the curator of Maker Faire Africa. He was the director for TED Global 2007 that took place in Arusha, Tanzania. In addition he is a member of the TED fellowship team. His interests include sustainable technologies in the developing world and paradigm-breaking technologies in general. His blog, Timbuktu Chronicles, seeks to spur dialogue in areas of entrepreneurship, technology and the scientific method as it impacts Africa. **Website:** <http://timbuktuchronicles.blogspot.co.uk/>

Notable Websites

African Brains: The Home of Intelligent Networking: African Brains - for forward thinking, intelligent Africans to network and propose new ideas and technologies to the world. **Website:** www.africanbrains.net

Social Media

Africa Entrepreneurship Platform: This ground breaking initiative is created as a forum to showcase innovative ideas and businesses from Africa that have the ability to scale internationally, driving job creation and sustainable economic development between Africa and the Americas. **Website:** www.sacca.biz

AfriGadget on Facebook: 'Solving everyday problems with African ingenuity': **Website:** www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2402629579

Start-up Funding

Hubs!

They are sprouting up all over the place and now there is a map showing where they are in Africa. **Website:** <https://africahubs.crowdmap.com/#>

And there are 18 in Latin America too. **Website:** <http://thenextweb.com/la/2012/08/11/18-latin-american-tech-hubs-know/>

The SEED Initiative

Hosted by the UN Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), the SEED Initiative is a global partnership for action on the Green Economy. The annual SEED Awards help to develop the most promising social and environmental start-ups in emerging economies and developing countries. **Website:** <http://unep.org/newscentre/Default.aspx?DocumentID=2647&ArticleID=8798&l=en>

The Pioneers of Prosperity Grant and Award

This competition is a partnership between the OTF Group and the John F. Templeton Foundation of the United States, and promotes companies in East Africa by identifying local role models that act as examples of sustainable businesses in their country/region. It is open to businesses from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda.

Five pioneers will receive US \$50,000 to re-invest in their business. It is open to for-profit businesses that provide high wages to their workers and that operate in sustainable ways. **Website:** <http://pioneersofprosperity.org/index.php>

Oxford Said Business School Youth Business Development Competition

Open to youth between 16 and 21 across the world, the competition is run by students at Oxford University to promote social enterprise. A prize fund of £2,000 in seed capital is up for grabs. It calls itself the 'world's first global youth development competition. **Website:** www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/oba/se/ybd

Challenge

InnoCentive (www.innocentive.com/) is a challenge to the world's inventors to find solutions to real scientific and technological problems affecting the poor and vulnerable. It is an open marketplace where anybody with a problem can post it, and rewards for effective solutions stretch up to US \$100,000. They use rigorous intellectual property protection so ideas are not stolen without credit being given to the inventor. **Website:** www.rockfound.org/about_us/news/2007/0720first_seeker.shtml

Rwanda Innovation Endowment Fund (RIEF): Rwanda Research Innovation Endowment Fund (RIEF) was established and is managed by the Government of Rwanda, through the Ministry of Education (MINEDUC) in partnership with UNECA (SRO-EA & ISTD) under One UN Rwanda. The objective of this Fund is to stimulate economic transformation through R&D in innovative market-oriented products and processes in priority areas of the economy, thereby increasing prosperity and the competitiveness of the Rwandan economy. The orientation can be either for economic growth, social development or combination of the two. **Website:** <http://www.mineduc.gov.rw/spip.php?article21>

The Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA): The **United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)** and the **African Innovation Foundation (AIF)** are delighted to announce the call for applications for the 2013 **Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA)**. Too often, innovators and entrepreneurs are not highly profiled on the African development agenda. It is IPA's mission to elevate attention around innovative work and help support the vision of entrepreneurs. The prize honours and encourages innovative achievements that contribute towards the development of new products, increased efficiency or cost savings in Africa. The prize also promotes the efforts of young African men and women pursuing science, technology and engineering careers as well as business opportunities that aim to contribute to sustainable development in Africa. **Website:** <http://innovationprizeforafrica.org/>

Video

Forum for the Future: Compelling animated videos exploring the hard choices of an urbanizing world and the need to promote sustainable development and environmental harmony. **Website:** <http://www.youtube.com/user/forumforthefuture96>

EVENTS

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to
<mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com>.

2013

February

Kick-off Meeting of the International Year of Water Cooperation

Paris, France (11 February 2013)

A media event will be held at UNESCO in Paris, France to kick-start the International Year of Water Cooperation 2013. During this event, the best slogan for water cooperation will be announced and adopted at the presence of the UNESCO Director General, Ms Irina Bokova. The author of the best slogan selected through the official slogan contest will be awarded during this event.

Website: <http://www.unwater.org/events.html>

Netexplo Forum 2013

Paris, France (14-15 February 2013)

The Forum will highlight some of the most promising global innovators in digital technologies today, who are inventing new forms of education, communication, information, solidarity and management around the globe. Their innovations impact on the way the public and private sectors reflect on development, dialogue and diversity, and they influence the elaboration of new strategies and programmes. The Forum is an opportunity to discover new and emerging trends in the use of digital technology, as well as to meet the creators of these innovations.

Website: <http://www.netexplo.org/?q=en>

Conference on Freedom of Expression on the Internet

Marrakesh, Morocco (15-16 February 2013)

Organized in partnership with Internet Society Maroc and the Ministry of Communication, this Conference will discuss recent developments in Morocco in the area of access to the Internet, and challenges and opportunities to guarantee freedom of expression on the Internet in Morocco. This event will be the occasion for UNESCO to bring international expertise in this area and to launch its two major publications "Freedom of connection, freedom of expression: the changing legal and regulatory ecology shaping the Internet" and the "Global Survey on Internet Privacy and Freedom".

Website: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/freedom-of-expression/freedom-of-expression-on-the-internet/>

Healthcare in Africa 2013: The Patient Perspective

Cape Town, South Africa (19-20 February 2013)

Healthcare in Africa will once again gather 180+ influential healthcare stakeholders from government, providers, suppliers and patient groups to explore the key issues around healthcare systems in the continent.

Website: <http://cemea.economistconferences.com/event/healthcare-africa>

Towards Knowledge Societies for Peace and Sustainable Development: WSIS +10 Review Meeting

Paris, France (25-27 2013)

10 years after the adoption of Geneva Plan of Action in 2003, UNESCO is hosting the first WSIS+10 review meeting in the lead up to the 2014 ITU meeting and 2015 overall review by the UN General Assembly. This high-level multi-stakeholder event will take place at its headquarters, in Paris, France from 25 to 27 February 2013. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) set a common vision of societies in which information and knowledge play critical roles in enabling the development of countries, societies and individuals, including those marginalized and the most vulnerable.

Website: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/flagship-project-activities/unesco-and-wsis/wsis-10-review-meeting/>

March

World Forests Summit

Stockholm, Sweden (5 March 2013)

Forests play a crucial role in the world's environment, health and economy - yet they are under threat. The World Forests Summit will assemble a leading group of experts from around the world to identify common ground and discuss mechanisms for forest stakeholders to work together differently. The summit will openly explore the

tensions and compromises that are involved in creating a thriving global green economy, delivering fresh insight into solving critical challenges at both global and national levels.

Website: http://cemea.economistconferences.com/event/world-forests-summit?utm_source=Economist&utm_medium=Banner&utm_campaign=ECOBAN#.UOAZ1R0j5l

Workshop to Build Community Radio in Nigeria

Igbimina, Nigeria (18-21 March 2013)

This event is the second in the series of community-based workshops aimed at sensitizing the communities on the importance of setting up community radio stations. This IPDC-funded project contributes to expanding the plurality and diversity of the media in Nigeria, and enhances the capacities of local communities in the use of media for community development and democratic discourse. This project is designed to make a strategic contribution to the development of community radio in Nigeria through training of grassroots communities and regional awareness raising events. The project builds on over five years of community radio advocacy in Nigeria and meets needs clearly expressed by civil society and community-based organizations and by grassroots communities to increase awareness of community radio and to build capacity for community radio development.

Website: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/intergovernmental-programmes/ipdc/homepage/>

Nigeria Summit 2013

Lagos, Nigeria (19-20 March 2013)

Nigeria has a young and growing population, a wide range of natural resources and a government full of internationally renowned reformers – yet life for the average Nigerian is not improving. There's no shortage of visions that see Nigeria transformed into a dynamic, competitive economy where entrepreneurialism and innovation thrives. But the real need is for action – at all levels. Bringing together 180+ international business leaders, investors, policymakers and influential commentators, our flagship Nigeria Summit will focus on what is being done to execute the vision.

Website: <http://cemea.economistconferences.com/event/nigeria-summit>

April

Source Africa – The African Textile, Apparel and Footwear Trade Event

Cape Town, South Africa (9-12 April 2013)

Source Africa shows off the quality, creativity, reliability, and sophistication of apparel manufacturing in Africa targeting a global audience of buyers, business leaders and service providers. SOURCE Africa will bring together business leaders and decision makers from across Africa, providing opportunities for international buyers to network with African manufacturers. By bringing Africa to the world of Sourcing, SOURCE Africa provides unparalleled resources and opportunities to buyers ... all under one roof. **Website:** <http://www.sourceafrica.co.za/>

Bellweather Breakfast: The Outlook for Growth, 2013 and Beyond

Baku, Azerbaijan (17 April 2013)

The financial crisis is now five years old, but the world's economic woes are far from over. Austerity measures and high unemployment in the euro zone are sapping business and consumer confidence; while the threat of a disorderly euro breakup or sovereign default has receded, the continent remains mired in recession, the weakest link in the global economy. Elsewhere, fiscal policy issues in the US are raising substantial risks, Russian economic growth is declining despite high oil prices, and the world waits to see whether a new leadership in China can manage the transition to a more consumer-led economy. These trends and factors create a new risk environment for business leaders and investors, forcing them to prepare for a complex range of scenarios. The Economist Events Bellwether Breakfast is an invitation-only meeting for thirty-five business leaders and investors which explores economic risks and scenarios in conversation with invited experts. Join us as we discuss the outlook for growth, linking global risks and developments to strategic decisions facing business leaders in Azerbaijan and the Caspian region **Website:** <http://cemea.economistconferences.com/event/bellwether-breakfast-baku-0>

May

World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2013

Geneva, Switzerland (13-17 May 2013)

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2013 will be jointly organized by UNESCO, ITU, UNCTAD and UNDP in Geneva, Switzerland, from 13 to 17 May 2013. The Forum provides structured opportunities to network, learn and participate in multi-stakeholder discussions and consultations on WSIS implementation **Website:** <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/flagship-project-activities/unesco-and-wsis/homepage/>

The Fourth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

Geneva, Switzerland (19-23 May 2013)

The Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction is a biennial forum for information exchange, discussion of latest development and knowledge and partnership building across sectors, with the goal to improve implementation of disaster risk reduction through better communication and coordination amongst stakeholders. It is for government representatives, NGOs, scientists, practitioners, and UN organizations to share experiences and formulate strategic guidance and advice for the implementation of the HFA. **Website:** <http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2013/>

June

China's New Future: Fortune Global Forum

Chengdu, China (6-8 June 2013)

Since 1995, the Global Forum has convened the heads of global business—the chairmen, presidents, and CEOs of the world's largest companies—on the dynamic frontiers of international commerce. In 2013 the Global Forum will return to China for the 4th time, convening in Chengdu, an energetic growing city in southwestern China that is both a symbol and the reality of the 21st century global economy. China is at a key inflection point, changing dynamically, and the Fortune Global Forum is the highest-level place for multinational CEOs—and the heads of China's most important companies—to gain visibility into the emerging new trends, and meet the people that are shaping "China's New Future." It represents an unparalleled opportunity to build the key relationships and obtain insights that are vital to positioning multinational companies for long-term success, in China and on a global basis. Participation in the Fortune Global Forum is by invitation only, and is attended by the CEOs of the Fortune Global 500 companies, along with the most important leaders from China and other nations.

Website: <http://www.fortuneconferences.com/global-forum-2013/>

Digital Horizons: People, Prosperity, Power

Stockholm, Sweden (12-13 June 2013)

Technology is going to change everything, again. Digitalisation has already transformed our lives but a new wave of innovation is coming that will reshape the way we live, work and consume, redefining social systems, industrial competitiveness and democracy – pushing the boundaries of what we thought possible. At Digital Horizons, we will explore the opportunities, challenges and threats in our digital future, focusing on current trends and their impact in 5, 15 and 30 years. How will technology change the way that companies compete and consumers behave? What needs to happen for Northern Europe, a hub of innovation in the past, to ensure that digitalisation supports growth, transparency and competition? Our summit will gather leading innovators, researchers, entrepreneurs, futurists and policymakers to discuss the digital future. **Website:**

<http://cemea.economistconferences.com/event/digital-horizons-0>

July

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to
<mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com>.

August

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to
<mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com>.

September

Medicine 2.0'13 6th World Congress on Social Media, Mobile Apps, and Internet/Web 2.0 in Health and Medicine

London, UK (23-24 September 2013)

This year hosted in London, will once again be very international and contain a unique mix of traditional academic/research, practice and business presentations, keynote presentations, and panel discussions to discuss emerging technologies in health and medicine, with an emphasis on Internet-based, social media, and mobile technologies. **Website:** <http://bit.ly/X7ZXxj>

October

7th ECOWAS Trade Fair

Accra, Ghana (24 October to 4 November 2013)

The regional fair, which is now a biennial event, was instituted to boost intra-community trade which presently hovers between 11 and 15 percent, and thereby contributing to the improved implementation of the ECOWAS

Trade Liberalisation Scheme (ETLS). It will also contribute to empowering local producers and stimulating the regional economy. **Website:** <http://www.ecowas.int/>

November

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to
<mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com>.

December

Have an event you would like the South-South community to know about? Then send details to
<mailto:developmentchallenges@googlemail.com>.

AWARDS AND FUNDING

The EU Contest for Young Scientists

The European Union (EU) Contest for Young Scientists, an initiative of the European Commission, was set up to promote the ideals of co-operation and interchange between young scientists.

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/research/youngscientists/index_en.cfm?pg=history

2013 Innovation Prize for Africa

The second round of the Innovation Prize for Africa (IPA), which aims to reward innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest, has been launched. The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) expect the prize to promote among young African men and women in the pursuit of science, technology and engineering careers and business applications. The aims are to:

- Mobilize leaders from all sectors to fuel African innovation;
- Promote innovation across Africa in key sectors of interest through the competition;
- Promote science, technology and engineering as rewarding, exciting and noble career options among the youth in Africa by profiling success applicants; and
- Encourage entrepreneurs, innovators, funding bodies and business development service providers to exchange ideas and explore innovative business opportunities.

Website: innovationPrizeForAfrica.org

World Summit Youth Award

The international contest for young people using the Internet and mobiles to take action on the UN Millennium Development Goals.

Website: www.youthaward.org

Grand Challenges Canada: Request for Proposals

Grand Challenges Canada is pleased to announce a new initiative in its Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health grand challenge. It's called Saving Brains. Its goal is to unlock potential in children and dramatically transform lives in the developing world. The money to fund this program comes from the Development Innovation Fund. In Budget 2008, the Government of Canada committed \$225 million CAD over five years to the Development Innovation Fund, to support the best minds in the world in a collaborative search for solutions to global health challenges. For the Request for Proposals:

Website: [http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request for Proposals-Saving Brains EN.pdf](http://www.grandchallenges.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Request%20for%20Proposals-Saving%20Brains%20EN.pdf)

Zayed Future Energy Prize

The world is in desperate need of innovative solutions to create a new, sustainable energy future. No one knows who or where the next great energy solution will come from. Solutions and technologies that could change the world are being developed globally, and the \$2.2 million Zayed Future Energy Prize, managed by Masdar in Abu Dhabi, recognizes and rewards innovation, leadership, and long-term vision in renewable energy and sustainability.

Website: www.zayedfutureenergyprize.com/

Philips Liveable Cities Award

Philips is looking for individuals and community or non-government organizations and businesses with ideas for "simple solutions" that will improve people's health and well-being in a city to enter the Philips Liveable Cities Award. To help translate these ideas into reality, three Award grants totalling €125,000 are on the line. One overall winning idea from any of the three categories outlined below will receive a grant of €75,000, while the two additional ideas will receive grants of €25,000.

Website: <http://www.because.philips.com/livable-cities-award/about-the-award>

Piramal Foundation in India

Has established a US \$25,000 prize for ideas that help advance full access to effective public health care in India. The Piramal Prize is a \$25,000 Social Entrepreneurship Competition focused on democratizing health care in India that seeks to encourage and support bold entrepreneurial ideas which can profoundly impact access to higher standards of health for India's rural and marginalized urban communities. The award recognizes high-impact, scalable business models and innovative solutions that directly or indirectly address India's health-care crisis.

Website: www.piramalprize.org

Special Award for South-South Transfer

The aim of the award is to identify, provide visibility, and honour those who have successfully shared their projects and approaches internationally, thereby increasing the impact of the initiative. The winning practice receives US \$15,000 to further transfer the awarded practice to other communities in developing countries.

Website: www.southsouthexpo.org

South-South Experience Exchange Facility

Supported by Mexico, China, India, Denmark, Spain, The Netherlands, and the U.K. and now Colombia, the South-South Experience Exchange Facility is a multi-donor trust fund that promotes the idea that developing countries can learn from the successes of other developing countries in overcoming similar challenges. In the past 12 months, the trust has given out 35 grants to countries for learning activities ranging from working with at risk youth in the Caribbean to outsourcing IT services in Africa.

Website: www.southsouthcases.info

African Writers Fund

Together with the Ford Foundation, the Fund supports the work of independent creative writers living on the continent. The Fund recognizes the vital role that poets and novelists play in Africa by anticipating and reflecting the cultural, economic and political forces that continuously shape and reshape societies.

Website: http://www.trustafrika.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=91&Itemid=90&lang=fr

Joint NAM S&T Centre - ICCS Fellowship Programme

Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) and International Center for Chemical Sciences (ICCS), (H.E.J. Research Institute of Chemistry and Dr. Panjwani Centre for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research), University of Karachi, Karachi, Pakistan

[Click here for more information](#)

or contact: namstct@vsnl.com, namstct@bol.net.in, apknam@gmail.com

PhD Plant Breeding Scholarships at the University of Ghana

The University of Ghana (www.ug.edu.gh) has been awarded a project support grant by the Alliance for a Green Revolution (www.agra-alliance.org) in Africa (a joint venture between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation, for the establishment of a West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). This is available to scientists working at NARIs, universities and international centres in West Africa. Women scientists are especially encouraged to apply for a fellowship under this programme.

Website: www.acci.org.za/Default.asp?nav=Home&idno=10

Genesis: India's Premier Social Entrepreneurship Competition

Is a social entrepreneurship competition aiming to bring together social entrepreneurs, students, NGOs, innovators, incubators, corporations and financiers and encourage them to come up with innovative ideas which are socially relevant and feasible.

Website: <http://genesis.iitm.ac.in/>

Jobs and Careers

Weitzenegger's International Development Job Market

Website: www.weitzenegger.de/new/jobmarket.php

Global Knowledge Initiative

The Global Knowledge Initiative seeks to build global knowledge partnerships between individuals and institutions of higher education and research. It seeks to help partners access the global knowledge, technology, and human resources needed to sustain growth and achieve prosperity for all."

Website: www.globalknowledgeinitiative.org/

ExportHelp - Promoting and supporting access to the European market

The European Commission runs a database for the explicit support of market players in developing countries who want to bring their products to the EU market. The database gives an overview on the EU's preferential trade regimes established for developing countries as well as lists all tariffs, taxes and other requirements for goods imported into the EU.

Website: <http://exporthelp.europa.eu>

Development Executive Group Devex Networking Website

Over 90,000 global experts can network and connect and learn about more than 47,000 registered projects.

Website: www.devex.org

Website Offers Career Advice to Young Africans

Set up by the Commonwealth Secretariat, Africancareerguidance.com is aimed at providing career guidance to African youth and helping them to link with prospective employers. AfricaRecruit is a human resources organization that provides skills training for African professionals in the Diaspora and on the continent. The website has an inbuilt email subscriber list for all its users and offers a searchable database of career profiles for job seekers and prospective employers. It also offers skills and interest assessments and advice on CV and résumé preparation. It provides tips about interviewing techniques, as well as information on internship and volunteer opportunities, and entrepreneurial skills.

Website: www.africacareerguidance.com

African Diaspora Skills Database

This database was compiled to provide an overview of qualified African Diaspora professionals with varied areas of expertise and experience. The African Diaspora contributes substantially to the social, economic and political development of Africa, and this database is set up to further mobilize this considerable potential.

Website: www.diaspora-centre.org/NEWSLETTER/Database

Aid Workers Network (AWN)

Aid Workers Network (AWN) is an online platform for aid, relief and development workers to ask and answer questions of each other, and to exchange resources and information. AWN is registered in the United Kingdom as a charity. You will find discussions about a range of questions and issues on the AWN forum from aid, relief and development workers all over the world and representing a variety of fields, with new threads or responses posted daily. The forum is a great way to get in contact with other aid and development workers in your geographic area or working in a similar area of work.

Website: www.aidworkers.net

Bizzlounge

Bizzlounge is where people committed to ethical behaviour meet, who want to establish and maintain business contacts in an exclusive and relaxed environment.

Website: <http://bizzlounge.com>

Business Action for Africa

Business Action for Africa is a network of businesses and business organizations working collectively to accelerate growth and poverty reduction in Africa.

Website: <http://businessactionforafrica.blogspot.com>

Business Fights Poverty

Business Fights Poverty is a professional network for all those passionate about fighting world poverty through the power of good business.

Website: <http://businessfightspoverty.ning.com>

Business in Development Network (BiD)

The BiD Network Foundation runs the BiD Challenge to contribute to sustainable economic development by stimulating entrepreneurship in developing countries.

Website: www.bidnetwork.org

Zunia

By Development Exchange, it offers news, publications and networking opportunities with the world's development community.

Website: www.zunia.org

Catalogue of Poverty Networks

UNDP is organizing an online catalogue of Poverty Networks as a means to facilitate access to knowledge and sharing this to a wider audience in 189 countries. Poverty Networks are web-based platforms that provide space for sharing and disseminating development-related information and initiatives. Below you will find information on IPC's collaborating networks, which help foster dialogue between researchers, policymakers, civil society and multilateral organizations.

Website: www.undp-povertycentre.org/povnet.do

Connections for Development (CfD)

CfD is a UK, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) led, membership based organization committed to ensuring that UK BME communities, and the organizations they are involved in, are supported in the process of shaping and delivering policy and projects that affect their countries of origin or interest – collectively "our world".

Website: www.cfdnetwork.co.uk

Development Crossing

Development Crossing was set up in 2006 by a small group of friends with diverse backgrounds ranging from business consulting to international development. In a world where the environment, corporate responsibility, and sustainable development are becoming increasingly intertwined, our goal was to create a site where individuals that shared our passion could keep up-to-date with relevant happenings in the world and connect with like-minded individuals. The idea behind Development Crossing is to provide a social network that brings together people from a variety of sectors, countries and professions to discuss corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

Website: www.developmentcrossing.com

DevelopmentAid.org

The one-stop-information-shop for the developmental sector, DevelopmentAid.org is a membership organization that brings together information for developmental professionals, NGOs, consultancy firms and donors.

Website: www.developmentaid.org

dgCommunities on the Development Gateway (Zunia.org)

Zunia.org, a free online service by the Development Gateway Foundation is devoted to knowledge-sharing and collaboration for people working to reduce poverty in the developing world.

Website: <http://topics.developmentgateway.org>

Diaspora African Forum

This Forum exists "to invite and encourage the full participation of Africans in the Diaspora in the building of the African Union, in its capacity as an important part of the Continent". We will provide the vital linkage for Diaspora Africans to become involved in Africa's development as well as reap the fruits of African unity.

Website: www.diasporafricanforum.org

Business Planet: a new data map on Entrepreneurship

Business Planet, an interactive Google map, now includes data on new business creation around the world. Measures of entrepreneurial activity are based on the number of total and newly registered corporations. Click on colour markers to learn more about each country.

Website: <http://rru.worldbank.org/businessplanet/default.aspx?pid=8>